IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims replaces all previous listings.

Claims 1-32. (canceled)

33. (previously presented) A method for identifying a candidate compound as a suitable pro-drug, comprising:

(a)   providing the candidate compound having an esterified phosphonate group;

(b)   contacting the candidate compound with at least a partially purified fraction of a PBMC extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase to produce a metabolite compound;

(c)   identifying the candidate compound as a suitable pro-drug if the metabolite compound has a phosphonic acid group instead of the esterified phosphonate group of the candidate compound.

Claims 34-61. (canceled)

62. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein said contacting step comprises contacting the candidate compound with said extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase *in vitro*.

63. (previously presented) The method of claim 33, wherein said contacting step comprises contacting the candidate compound with said extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase in cell culture.

64. (previously presented) The method of claim 63, wherein said contacting step comprises contacting the candidate compound with said extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase in a culture of peripheral blood mononuclear cells.

65. (previously presented) A method for identifying a candidate compound as a suitable

pro-drug, comprising:

      (a)   providing the candidate compound having an esterified carboxyl group;

      (b)   contacting the candidate compound with at least a partially purified fraction of a PBMC extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase to produce a metabolite compound;

      (c)   identifying the candidate compound as a suitable pro-drug if the metabolite compound has a carboxylic acid group instead of the esterified carboxyl group of the candidate compound.

      Clams 66-92. (canceled)

      93. (previously presented) The method of claim 65, wherein said contacting step comprises contacting the candidate compound with said extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase *in vitro*.

      94. (previously presented) The method of claim 65, wherein said contacting step comprises contacting the candidate compound with said extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase in cell culture.

      95. (previously presented) The method of claim 94, wherein said contacting step comprises contacting the candidate compound with said extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase in a culture of peripheral blood mononuclear cells.

      96. (previously presented) A method for identifying a candidate compound as a suitable pro-drug, comprising:

      (a)   providing the candidate compound having an esterified phosphonate group or an esterified carboxyl group;

      (b)   contacting the candidate compound with an at least a partially purified fraction of PMBC extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase activity, which has carboxylic ester hydrolase activity but does not cleave alpha-napthyl acetate, to produce a metabolite compound;

(c)   identifying the candidate compound as a suitable pro-drug if the metabolite compound has a phosphonic acid group instead of the esterified phosphonate group of the candidate compound, or a carboxylic acid group instead of the esterified carboxyl group of the candidate compound.

Claims 97-122. (canceled)

123. (previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein said contacting step comprises contacting the candidate compound with at least a partially purified fraction of a PBMC extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase *in vitro*.

124. (previously presented) The method of claim 96, wherein said contacting step comprises contacting the candidate compound with at least a partially purified fraction of a PBMC extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase in cell culture.

125. (previously presented) The method of claim 124, wherein said contacting step comprises contacting the candidate compound with at least a partially purified fraction of a PBMC extract comprising GS-7340 Ester Hydrolase in a culture of peripheral blood mononuclear cells.

Claims 126-180. (canceled)